**Impact of the Recent Cyclone on Tobacoo Crop in Andhra Pradesh**

1657. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent cyclone had damaged the tobacoo crop in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Tabacco Board has made any assessment of the negative impact on exports; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposed corrective steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) At the time of the cyclone the process of transplantation had just begun. The tobacoo farmers have since resumed transplanting and have taken up replanting and gap filling where cyclone damage had taken place. As there was no mature crop at the time of the cyclone, the damage has been confined to nurseries.

**Declining Trend of Industrial Growth**

1658. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial growth has slowed down from 15.5% in 1995-96 to 9.8% during the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the sagging economy and also to arrest the declining trend of industrial growth?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) As per Index of Industrial Production, the overall industrial production in April—July, 1996-97 has recorded a growth of 9.3% as compared to growth rate of 12.3% recorded in the corresponding period of last year. The decleration in industrial growth is confined to a few Sectors particularly, the crude petroleum, Fertilizers and power generation etc.

(c) Sector specific stretegies have been initiated to remove constraints in under performing sectors. Adequate credit with softened interest rates assured to industries through the recently announced busy season credit policy are providing further impetus to growth.

**Donation of One Day's Salary by the Staff of NSFDC to Andhra Pradesh CM's Relief Fund, 1996**

1659. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all staff members of National S.C./S.T. Finance and Development Corporation have voluntary donated one day's salary for Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister's Relief Fund, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether officials of N.S.F.D.C. were also deputed in Andhra Pradesh to provide assistance for undertaking economic activities by the affected Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe families;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to appeal to the people of other communities to follow the path as in (a) and (c); and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A sum of Rs. 22,022/- being one day's salary of NSFAC's employees has been